Permission to Foreign Opinion Poll Companies

1787. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have permitted foreign Opinion Poll Companies to operate in India to judge political opinion on various issues;

(b) whether the full implication of such policy innovation have been assessed; and

(c) the details of permission granted to companies like Gallup Poll, Harris Poll to operate in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Custody Deaths in Delhi

1788. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 333 given in the Rajya Sabha on 28.4.93. and state:

(a) what action has been taken against the police officers responsible for the custody deaths in Delhi; and

(b) what measures have been taken so far to remove the deficiencies in police training to bring down the number of police torture and custody deaths and to use more scientific methods for interrogation of suspects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) The Delhi Police has reported that 13 perons died in police csutody during the years 1990, 1991 and 1992. The year wise break-up of custodial deaths is as under:

Year	No. of Custodial death
1990	2
1991	7
1992	4

In 3 cases, the Sub-Divisional Magistrate's enquiry report did not held the police peronnel responsible for the deaths. Criminal cases were registered against policemen in 7 cases of custodial deaths. In two cases, departmental enquiries have been initiated on the basis of the reports of S.D.M. In the remaining case, the S.D.M. did not attribute the fatal injuries to the police and recommeneud further enquiry.

(b) Instrucions have been reiterated that persons in custody shall be treated in accordance with the law and that resort to coerctive methods shall not be made. Strict action. including criminal prsecuion, it taken whenever any police officials is found indulging in torture or held responsible for a custodial death.

Special inputs have been introduced in the induction and in service training programmes to senisitize police officers about using scitntific methods for investigation.

Interrogation rooms are being relocated to make them more visible and be close to the reporting rooms so as to minimise scope for violation of these instructions.

Iranian Hand in Recent Bombay Bomb Blasts

1789. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Iranian hand is suspected in the recent Bombay bomb blasts;